MONOGRAPH

THE CHAPLAIN AND AREA COVERAGE IN THE INFANTRY DIVISION

(R O C I D)

5 May 1958

Frank C. Riley
FRANK C. RILEY
Chaplain (Major) USA

THE CHAPLAIN SCHOOL
Fort Slocum, New York

Chaplain Officer Advanced Course
(16-A-C4) Class 58 - 5
27 January - 14 May 1958

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THE CHAPLAIN AND AREA COVERAGE IN THE INFANTRY DIVISION (R O C I D)

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this monograph is to assist the Infantry Division Commander (R O C I D) in establishing policy and proper procedures within the command regarding the employment of Chaplains in Area Coverage in matters pertaining to Religion, Morale, and Character Guidance.

II. ASSIGNMENT OF CHAPLAINS IN THE INFANTRY DIVISION (R O C I D)

The total number of Chaplains assigned to the Infantry Division (ROCID) is eighteen (18). Chaplain assignments are as follows:

Infantry Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company, One (1) Lt Col, and one (1) Major.

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Infantry Division Trains and Infantry Division Band, One (1) Major, and one (1) Captain/Lieutenant.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Infantry Division Armor Battalion, One (1) Captain/Lieutenant.

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Infantry Division Artillery, One (1) Major, and one (1) Captain/Lieutenant.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Infantry Division Engineer Battalion, One (1) Captain/Lieutenant.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Infantry Division Battle Groups, Five (5) Majors, - one per each Battle Group, and five (5) Captains/Lieutenants, - one per each Battle Group.[1]

1. Program of Instruction for Supplemental Branch Training of Unit Chaplains on Summer Field Training - Summer 1958, US Army Chaplain School, p. 18 (Chart)

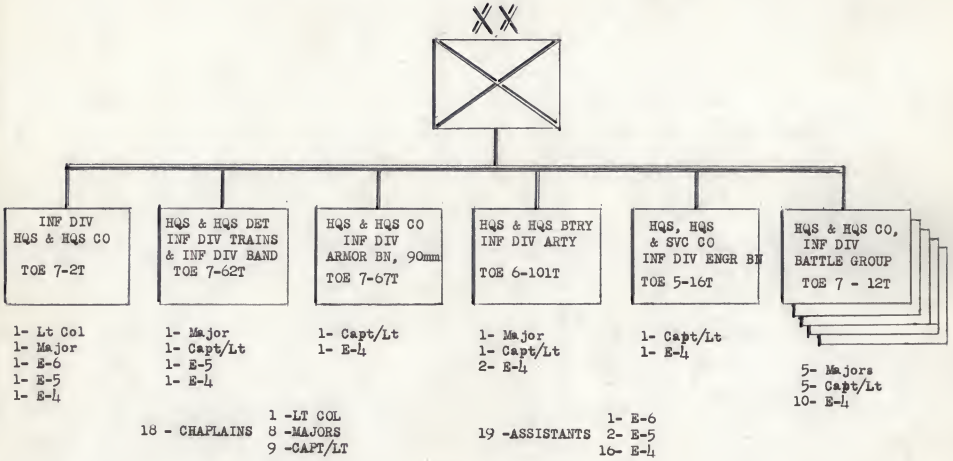

FIGURE 1: CHAPLAIN ASSIGNMENTS IN THE INFANTRY DIVISION (ROCID)[3].

3. Program of Instruction for Supplemental Branch Training of Unit Chaplains on Summer Field Training, 1958, US Army Chaplain School, Fort Slocum, New York, page 18, figure 2.

III. CONCEPT OF AREA COVERAGE

A. It is becoming more and more apparent that Chaplains must provide area coverage during this age of rapid mobility, wide dispersion, and probable atomic warfare.[2]

B. Basically, the concept of area coverage is simple. When applied it means that the Chaplains assigned to their units will provide proper Chaplain coverage therein, and in addition, will provide Chaplain coverage in other units adjacent or nearby which are otherwise without Chaplain coverage.

C. Specific areas will generally be designated by the Division Chaplain in order to prevent overlaping of some areas and lack of coverage in other areas.

IV. APPLICATION OF AREA COVERAGE CONCEPT (ORGANIC CHAPLAINS)

A. The Infantry Division Chaplain, by virtue of his position, should provide coordination and exercise technical supervision pertaining to Chaplain area coverage in order to avoid any duplication of services in some units, and a lack of services in others.

1. The Division Chaplain should have planned in advance an SOP to meet all emergencies. Through the use of this SOP and close coordination between the G 1, G 3, and the Division Chaplain, Chaplains may be designated to areas where needed in a manner that will minimize the possibility of any troops, especially the seriously injured, being without ministrations required at this time.

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2. TT 7-100-2, The Infantry Division, US Continental Army Command, March 1957, par. 134a.

2. In a fast moving situation, the responsibility of the Division Chaplain to provide close coordination and exercise close technical supervision pertaining to Chaplain area coverage is a very difficult task. Much of the success of this program will depend a great deal upon the initiative of all Chaplains, especially the Battle Group Chaplains.

B. The Battle Group Chaplain should always be available to the Battle Group Aid Station, especially when our forces are in the attack or are receiving heavy casualties.

1. Under the present concept, any religious ministrations given to a casualty will be recorded on the EMT tag, and the casualty will be evacuated according to the severity of his injury.

2. Any additional necessary religious ministrations not given to a casualty at the Battle Group Aid Station should be provided by the Chaplain providing coverage for the Medical Battalion, or other Chaplains along the chain of evacuation echelon.

C. The Chaplain should keep his unit informed of his plans at all times. This he can accomplish by keeping in touch with his S 1, aid station personnel, and men on the switch boards. The Chaplain should notify the S 1, and the Aid Station, when he departs one unit and arrives at his destination. His whereabouts should be known at all times.

D. No Chaplain should ever become known as a "Headquarters Chaplain". The ideal is that the Chaplain become a Circuit Rider and be seen frequently in the Company or Battery Area, moving regularly, but remaining long enough to become acquainted with as many of his people as possible.

E. Battle Group Chaplains (One (1) Catholic and one (1) Protestant in each Battle Group) should plan and coordinate with the S 1 in order to arrange for providing religious services and counseling opportunities for unit personnel, keeping in mind that many services will be scheduled during the week, especially for the small, isolated groups.

F. The Chaplain should be assigned a qualified Chaplain's assistant (MOS 718.10) and adequate means of transportion, keeping in mind that the Chaplain and his assistant will operate as a team, completely mobile, and capable of covering wide areas over extended periods of time. (Chaplain Area Coverage Teams will be discussed later in this monograph.)

G. The Tank Battalion Chaplain, the Engineer Battalion Chaplain, and the Division Trains Chaplains will find their personnel widely scattered and dispersed, and employed throughout the Division Zone. The Tank Battalion may be providing part of a covering force for the Division; the Engineers may be in support of the Infantry or preparing defense positions in the rear areas. Personnel of the Division Trains will be more easily accessable to their Chaplains, but will be dispersed over wide areas. This unavoidable situation will lend itself favorably to the Chaplain Area Coverage Concept.

H. The Tank Battalion Chaplain, the Engineer Battalion Chaplain, and the Division Trains Chaplains should be thoroughly familiar with the battle zone area, and ready at all times to move into any area in the event of necessity. These Chaplains may form a pool from which the Infantry Division Chaplain (ROCID) may draw Chaplains during emergencies. Chaplain Teams from this pool may be organized and deployed into areas in which the need is most eminent.

I. In addition to the above, these Chaplains will be able to provide religious coverage and character guidance instructions for personnel in rest areas. It is likely that the Division Chaplain may recommend that Chaplains who have been constantly under fire for long periods of time, be allowed to take a few days R & R, and be replaced during this time by Chaplains from this pool, or by other Chaplains in the Division.

V. APPLICATION OF AREA COVERAGE CONCEPT (NON-ORGANIC CHAPLAINS)

A. Chaplain Area Coverage Team Defined.

1. In order for eighteen (18) Chaplains to provide coverage for more than fourteen thousand four hundred fifty (14,450) men, widely dispersed over an area sometimes exceeding twelve miles in width, and ten to twenty miles in depth, it is necessary that the work be done in a systematic, well planned and coordinated manner. The Chaplain Area Coverage Team seems to be the only plausable answer. (This concept was used extensively and successfully in the early stages of the Korean Conflict.)

2. The Chaplain Area Coverage Team consists of a Chaplain and a qualified Chaplain's Assistant (MOS 718.10). (It is very desirable that the Chaplain and his assistant be trained in giving first aid so they can be of assistance in emergencies, or in the absence of medics.) A suitable means of transportation should be assigned to the Chaplain so that he will be completely mobile, and able to travel freely from unit to unit without becoming a burden to any organization.

B. Chaplain Area Coverage Team In Operation

1. Chaplain Area Coverage Teams would be under the supervision of the Division Chaplain while operating within the Division sector. The Teams may be drawn from the pool formed from the Chaplains of the Tank Battalion, the Engineer Battalion, and the Division Trains. It is also felt that Chaplain Area Coverage Teams could be formed at Corps or Army level from which the Division Chaplain could draw in the event of emergencies.

2. In the event that such Teams were organized at Corps or Army level, they should operate as Teams under the operational control of the Division Chaplain during special situations, and not become organic to the unit requesting them for coverage.

3. The Chaplain's assistant should not only be a good first aid man, but he should also be a thoroughly trained Infantryman. Both he and the Chaplain should expect and be able to endure hardships (including long hours of continuous work without sleep), and at the same time render assistance to men who look toward the Chaplain for spiritual guidance in situations that try men's souls.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

A. It is necessary that all commanders have a clear understanding regarding the need for area coverage provided by all Chaplains within the Infantry Division (R O C I D).

B. A source of Chaplains for Area Coverage Teams already exists within the Infantry Division. These Chaplains are those assigned to the Tank and Engineer Battalions, and the Division Trains.

C. In order to provide adequate Chaplain Area Coverage, a source in addition to the Chaplains organic to the Infantry Division (R O C I D) will be necessary. This source may well be an Area Coverage Team provided by higher Headquarters and available upon request.

D. Adequate transportation must be made available to Chaplains providing area coverage in order to assure a high degree of flexibility, and cross country mobility.

E. Each commander is assured under the Chaplain Area Coverage Concept that his unit will receive Chaplain coverage at all times. This would hold true in the event of the loss of a Chaplain who may have become a battle casualty. Under this concept, he would be immediately replaced by a Chaplain Area Team which would have already been trained and prepared for any emergency or combat situation.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. It is recommended that the following be established by the Infantry Division Chaplain (R O C I D), and published by the Division Commander in order to facilitate Chaplain Area Coverage:

1. Unit Commanders will make their Chaplain personnel available for religious coverage to adjacent units which otherwise are without Chaplain coverage.

2. Commanders of Units beyond reach of their Unit Chaplains will establish liaison with the nearest Unit containing Chaplain personnel, and will arrange for

religious ministration for their troops.

B. It is recommended that careful study and consideration be given the possibility of organizing and training on Corps or Army level, Chaplain Area Coverage Teams, and making these teams available to units in the field where needed.

THE CHAPLAIN AND AREA COVERAGE IN THE INFANTRY DIVISION

(R O C I D)

VIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1. AR 165-15

2. FM 16-5

3. TT 7-100-2, United States Continental Army Command, The Infantry Division, dtd March 1957, Fort Monroe, Virginia.

4. Program of Instruction for Supplemental Branch Training of Unit Chaplains On Summer Field Training - Summer 1958, Approved by Commanding General, Continental Army Command, January 1958. - U. S. Army Chaplain School, Fort Slocum, New York.

5. Experiences:

Third Infantry Division Artillery - four (4) campaigns in Korean Conflict. As Assistant Division Artillery Chaplain, provided Chaplain Area Coverage for Artillery and Infantry personnel widely dispersed over extensive areas during evacuation of Hungnam and Hungham, and during the eight (8) months that followed.

6. Classroom Notes and Discussions, devoted to the proper utilization of Chaplain personnel within the newly reorganized Infantry Division. (R O C I D).